

## GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 5, 1996*

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 175th anniversary of Greek Independence Day which will take place on March 25, 1996. It is my pleasure to join the many friends of Greece and the nearly 3 million Greek-Americans living in the United States in celebrating the day the Greeks began their long struggle for independence from the Ottoman Empire.

We must remember that the ancient Greeks first developed the concept of democracy and many of their philosophies serve as the cornerstones of our modern democracy. Time has not lessened the wisdom of Aristotle's insight when he said:

If liberty and equality, as is thought by some, are chiefly to be found in democracy, they will best be attained when all persons alike share in the government to the utmost.

March 25 is a day to reflect on these words and remember the courage of the Greeks who proclaimed their independence on that day in 1821 and fought bravely for nearly a decade. The belief in democracy and the willingness to sacrifice for it is a common heritage that the people of Greece and the people of the United States share and is reflected by the contributions Greek-Americans make nationwide.

While celebrations will take place nationwide, a very special event is planned for Boston. My friends at the Federation of Hellenic-American Societies of New England and the Greek Orthodox Diocese of Boston have organized their 2d Annual Greek Independence Day Parade. It is my great pleasure to recognize this event and I know it will be another tremendous success.

IN MEMORY OF LT. DREW DAVID  
HELMS SEPTEMBER 26, 1962 TO  
FEBRUARY 11, 1996

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 5, 1996*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. Drew David Helms, a man who touched the lives of thousands. Lieutenant Helms was a member of the Salvation Army corps in California's 13th Congressional District. He passed away on Sunday, February 11, 1996, as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident.

Lt. Drew Helms grew up in Seattle where he learned the importance of service to his fellow man early in life. His parents, Gordon and Peggy Helms, were training to become Salvation Army officers and brought Drew and his older brother, Paul, along with them as they attended the School for Officers's Training. Drew grew up in the corps and credited his parents with teaching him early on to honor and respect all human life and to dedicate one's life to helping those less fortunate.

While still in Seattle, Drew met Nancy Newbould. After years of friendship and service together in the Salvation Army, they were married in 1987 while Drew was a student at Simpson College in San Francisco. In June in 1988, Drew graduated from Simpson with a bachelor of arts degree in Christian education. In 1990 Drew and Nancy, along with their 1-year-old son, Nicholas Andrew, entered the School for Officers' Training as members of the Followers of Jesus Session. In 1992, Drew and Nancy moved to Honolulu, HI, after receiving their commissions as lieutenants in the Salvation Army. Once there, Drew was appointed commanding officer of the Leeward Corps. In September of the same year, Drew and Nancy's second son, Cameron David was born. After only a year in Hawaii, the Helms family moved to Hayward, CA where Drew served as commander of the Hayward Corps. They served in Hayward together for the next 5 years and had a daughter, Katherine Leigh, in May of 1995.

Lt. Drew Helms was on his way from Hayward to the corps to participate in a neighborhood feeding program when he was involved in a fatal automobile accident. He is survived by his wife, Nancy; their three children, Nicholas, Cameron, and Katherine; his parents, Majors Gordon and Peggy Helms; and his brothers Paul, Derek, and Craig. My thoughts and prayers are with them.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring the memory of Lt. Drew David Helms. His dedication and commitment to those less fortunate should serve as an example to us all.

IN MEMORY OF PEDRO MARTINEZ  
ADA

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 5, 1996*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with our Nation the story of a very remarkable man, Mr. Pedro Ada. During his lifetime, Mr. Ada, along with his wife Maria,

made a positive contribution to the people of Guam through their hard work and dedication.

Tun Pedro, as he was known to his family and friends, was born on the Island of Saipan in 1903. He attended the business program at Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan, at age 17 and returned to Guam in 1925. In 1927, Tun Pedro married his wife and business partner for life, Maria Palomo. With only the proceeds of a \$200 loan from the Bank of Guam, the Adas began their first business, a grocery store, in 1938. In 1941 the Japanese invaded our island. The occupying forces confiscated all of the merchandise in the Adas' grocery store and imprisoned Tun Pedro for a month because he was suspected of being a spy for the United States. After the island was liberated by the United States in 1944, Tun Pedro was able to reopen his grocery store across the street from the site of his old store. For the next 12 years, Tun Pedro continued to expand his business.

By 1956, the Adas had three grocery stores, warehouses in four villages, and a fleet of 18 vehicles to haul goods that came into Guam's port. On the advice of his accounting firm, Tun Pedro incorporated his grocery business and created Ada's Inc. During the next 15 years, the Adas continued to expand their business to include a bowling alley and several office buildings. In 1970, Ada's Inc. teamed up with Chinn Ho, a Hawaiian businessman, to build Guam's first condominium project, Alupang Cove Condominiums.

Tun Pedro and his family worked during the 1970's and 1980's to renovate his various properties and to strengthen his company. In May of 1985, Tun Pedro and his wife were both awarded honorary doctorate degrees from the University of Guam in recognition of their civic and corporate leadership.

Mr. Pedro Ada was a hard-working and generous man who was dedicated to Guam. Tun Pedro had been the chairman of the board for Ada's Inc., since its beginning. He was also a charter member of the Civilian Advisory Council and a member of the Knights of San Sylvester. Tun Pedro contributed to many charities and organizations on Guam and had established the Pedro M. Ada scholarship program at the University of Guam. His accomplishments and contributions to our island will live on for many years to come. Tun Pedro passed away on November 14, 1995. I extend my condolences and the sympathy of the people of Guam to the family of Tun Pedro. Our island has been blessed by his life's work, and we appreciate the many good things he has done for Guam.